

## INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

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404086

May 7, 1991

ENV. RESPONSE DIV  
DETROIT DIST. OFC.

RECEIVED 307

MAY 14 1991

TO: Mary Vanderlaan, Livonia District, ERD

FROM: Susan Wenzlick, Office of Site Reclamation *Susan*

SUBJECT: Questions for BASF - Wyandotte Site Analysis

As we discussed on the phone last week, OSR has been asked by Recreation Division to review an application for bond funding from the City of Wyandotte. The city has applied for funds to build a boardwalk along the Detroit River on land leased from the BASF South Works property in Wyandotte. I have enclosed a copy of the city's grant application.

I have reviewed the BASF consent decree from November, 1985 with Clif Clark in Compliance and Enforcement. Clif and I have some concerns about the suitability of this site for recreational use. The materials we reviewed do not provide much information about contaminants, suitability for other uses, or potential risks associated with the site. I am aware that Charles San Juan of your staff has been the department's contact on this project, and I was hoping that you and Charles could provide me with some advice we could pass on to the Recreation Division. I have listed a few questions that Clif and I discussed.

Have any new contaminants been discovered that are not listed as "known" in the consent agreement? For example, mercury was cited in a newspaper article as a potential hazard on the site. Is this on the list of "known contaminants" in the consent decree?

Has any other new information been discovered since the consent decree -- new locations of contaminants, or higher levels than was previously known?

Has BASF lived up to the conditions of the consent decree?

Is a recreational use of the site advisable based on what we know about it?

What health risks may be present at the site? Would recreational use exacerbate any existing problems?

Would the district staff recommend that a new environmental assessment be conducted before the recreation dollars are committed?

Recreation Division did not indicate what their time frame was for a response from us, but if you could get back to me in the next couple of weeks, I'd appreciate it. If you want to discuss this by phone, my number is (517) 373-0992. Thanks for your help.

cc: James G. Truchan, ERD  
Anne Couture, ERD  
Clif Clark, ERD